

Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AUGUST 8, 2007 WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/KYW CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN PHONE: (502) 582-5911 FAX: (502) 582-5097

FRANKLIN MAN INDICTED FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING AND FOR BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

- Joint Investigation by Kentucky State Police and ATF

LOUISVILLE, KY - A federal grand jury in Bowling Green returned an indictment against Larry Briggs, age 54, of Franklin, Kentucky, in Simpson County, on charges of possession of cocaine base ("crack") with intent to distribute, possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

The Indictment alleges that on December 15, 2006, in Simpson County in the Western District of Kentucky, Briggs possessed less than one gram of cocaine base with intent to distribute and also possessed a firearm after having been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, that is, the crime of trafficking in a controlled substance in the first degree, case number 99-CR-00154, Simpson Circuit Court. Briggs also has two other prior felony convictions for trafficking in a controlled substance in the first degree, case number 00-CR-00051, Simpson Circuit Court. The Indictment also alleges that on April 27, 2007, Briggs possessed approximately one gram of cocaine with intent to distribute. The street value of cocaine is approximately \$100 per gram.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are life imprisonment, a \$4,250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of six years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Kentucky State Police, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

Briggs is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on August 22, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

* * *

The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

###